

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

19 February 2015

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***WET WEATHER SITE INSPECTION REPORT #3, RECOLOGY YUBA SUTTER LANDFILL,
YUBA COUNTY***

The Recology Yuba Sutter Landfill is regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2003-0093 and Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) R5-2013-0704. On 5 December 2014 the Assistant Executive Officer issued Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Order R5-2014-0830 for monitoring the compost area leachate collection system.

Staff conducted a third wet weather inspection on 6 February 2015. The purpose of this inspection was to observe how prepared the Discharger was for the next series of storms. During this inspection, precipitation was falling at a steady rate. Prior to our arrival approximately 0.6-inches of precipitation had fallen (12:53 am to 2:00 pm). Since very little precipitation fell after the December storms, the leachate collection system was ready to absorb leachate generated during the storm. To help maintain the capacity, the Discharger was discharging leachate to the Publically Owned Treatment Works (POTW) which is part of the water balance for the system.

During this site inspection, staff requested an updated figure showing the extent of the compost area and an updated figure from the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that had been provided by email. Staff also discussed the Discharger's request to modify the MRP for frequency of their tank monitoring. Staff asked for the Discharger to provide the request in writing.

The only area of concern observed was slight ponding of leachate on the compost pad due in part to BMPs installed and improper grading at the toe of the compost pad. These issues are shown in the attached Photo Log. Staff recommends the Discharger identify ponding on the compost pad as a priority maintenance item during all precipitation events. By **13 March 2015** the Discharger shall revise the Compost Area Operations and Maintenance Manual section addressing ponding on the cover.

Please call me at 916-464-4737 if you have any questions.



TODD A. DEL FRATE, P.G. 7394
Engineering Geologist
WDRs Compliance and Enforcement

Enclosure: Site Inspection Report
Site Inspection Photo Log

cc: Mayumi Okamoto, Office of Enforcement
Paul Donoho, Yuba County Division of Environmental Health, Marysville, CA

CIWQS SIID #19327862

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

INSPECTION REPORT

DATE 19 February 2015

DISCHARGER: Recology Inc.

LOCATION & COUNTY: Recology Yuba Sutter, Yuba County

CONTACT(S): Phil Graham, Jordan Norris, Stephanie Kendall

INSPECTION DATE: 6 February 2015

INSPECTED BY: Todd Del Frate, P.G.

ACCOMPANIED BY: Howard Hold, P.G.


OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS:

Staff conducted this inspection on 6 February 2015. This was the third wet weather site inspection during the 2014-2015 winter, and was intended to evaluate the leachate collection system designed to capture runoff generated from all storms up to and including a 25-year, 24-hour precipitation event of 3.16-inches. During the two previous site inspections conducted during December 2014 precipitation events, leachate generated during the storm events were not contained as required by Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) R5-2013-0704. During the December inspections, multiple issues with the collection system were observed including lack of capacity, severe ponding on the cover due to inadequate drainage, and inadequate pumping capacity. Following each storm event, the Discharger worked to address the problems observed and cited as violations of the CAO. Currently, the Discharger has incorporated 39 Baker Tanks into the collection system for a total onsite capacity of 819,000 gallons. They have upgraded sumps, pumps, and installed other best management practices (BMPs) to help control leachate generated.

The 6 February 2015 site inspection was conducted during a precipitation event of approximately 1.54 inches during a 24 hour period. Staff inspected the facility after approximately 0.6-inches of precipitation had fallen. As shown in the attached Photo Log, the compost area and collection system had few issues to contend with during this rain event. As an example, the sumps were able to pump runoff adequately to prevent backup or overtopping. During this inspection staff observed available capacity within the tanks, which was estimated at 500,000 gallons (approximately 24 tanks empty). Also, during this inspection leachate captured was being discharged to the POTW providing additional capacity during the day.

The Discharger provided a description of how the northern sump pumps area automated with on/off controls triggered by float switches. Staff also observed Yuba City POTW conducting an industrial discharge pretreatment inspection. Yuba City personnel were collecting leachate samples from the POTW discharge. If acceptable to Yuba City, this would be a second disposal option for the Discharger.

The only area of concern that staff noted during this inspection was ponding leachate on the compost pad. In general, this condition was exacerbated by BMPs retaining runoff (Photo's 3 and 5) and improper grading at the toe of the compost pad (Photo 7). The Discharger should work toward

Approved: 

alleviating these deficiencies during precipitation events to keep leachate from ponding. The Discharger should identify ponding as a priority maintenance item.



TODD A. DEL FRATE, P.G. 7394
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

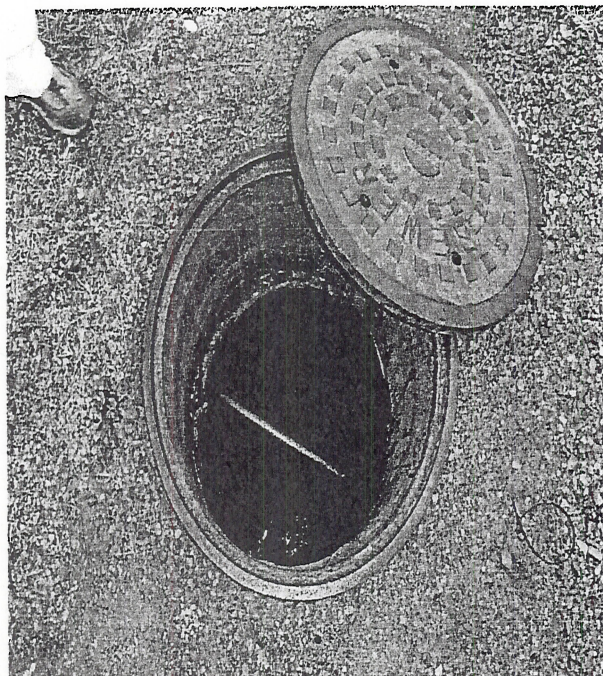


Photo 1: Point of onsite discharge to POTW.



Photo 2: Eastern sump of southern compost area. Light rain during this inspection and sump appeared to be able to keep up.

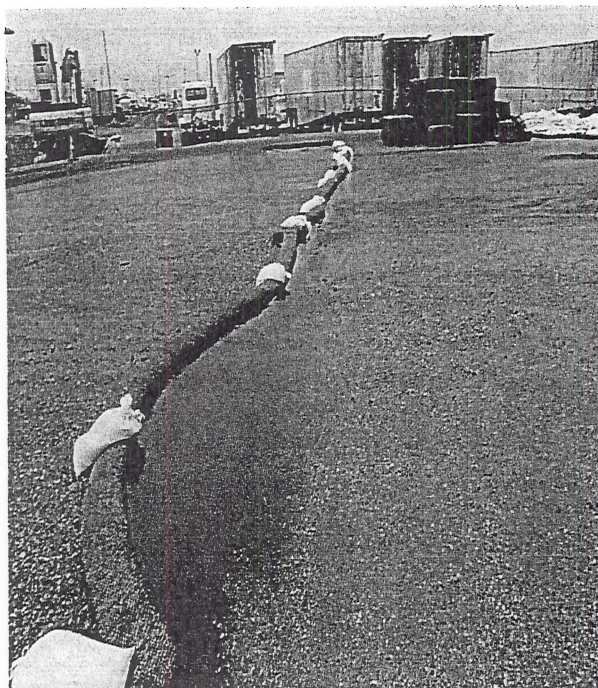


Photo 3: BMPs placed in December 2014. Note slight ponding of leachate. Ponding on the cover is a violation of the CAO and WDR.



Photo 4: Backup pumps and generators located at the western sump of the southern compost area.

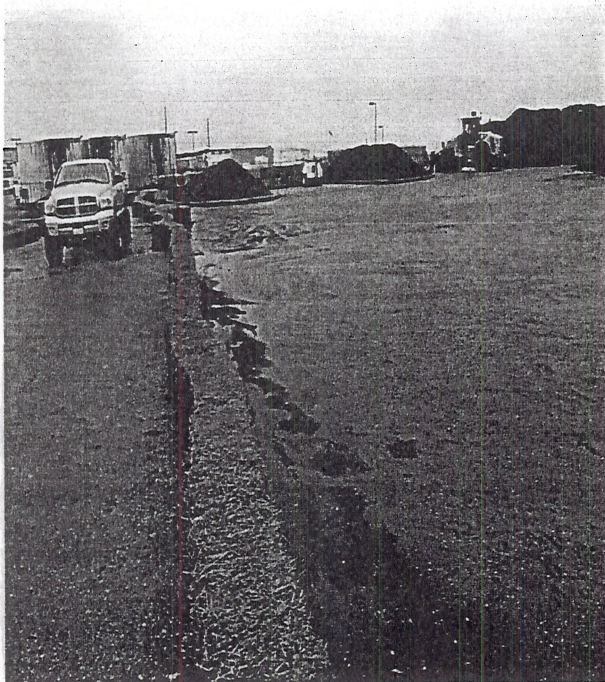


Photo 5: Ponding behind BMPs installed during the December 2014 storm events. Ponding on cover is a violation of the CAO and WDRs.



Photo 6: Northern tank farm with empty tanks indicating capacity during this site inspection.



Photo 7: Compost pad draining through 6-inch diameter lateral to 18-inch diameter header pipe to northern sumps.



Photo 8: Plastic lined basin erected as emergency catchment due to previous discharges of leachate. This is not an approved containment system or part of the collection system design.